

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 04000 212049Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PM-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
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INRE-00 /048 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5407
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 4000

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, DR
SUB: NEIT NIVAR FINALLY OBTAINS HIS TROOP COMMAND

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 3974,

1. PRESIDENT BALAGUER LAST NIGHT (JULY 20) NAMED MGEN
RAFAEL NEIT NIVAR SEIJAS COMMANDER OF THE FIRST BRIGADE,
THE BEST BODY OF TROOPS IN THE COUNTRY.

2. THE PRESIDENT ALSO DECREED SEVERAL OTHER CHANGES IN THE
ARMY, AIR FORCE AND POLICE HIGH COMMANDS:

A. THE MAN NEIT NIVAR REPLACES, MGEN ENRIQUE PEREZ Y
PEREZ, MOVES FROM DIRECTO TROOP COMMAND TO THE POSITION OF
ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF: HE REPLACES MGEN MARCOS JORGE MORENO,
WHO TAKES ON A NEWLY CREATED NON-JOB AS "COORDINATOR GENERAL OF
THE ARMED FORCES."

B. IN THE AIR FORCE, MGEN. SALVADOR LLUBERES MONTAS WAS
NAMED THE NEW CHIEF REPLACING MGEN. RENATO MALAGON MONTESANO,
WHO IS ASSIGNED TO ANOTHER NEWLY-INVENTED "COORDINATOR" JOB
FOR HIS SERVIE.

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C. IN THE NATIONAL POLICE, MGEN. ROBINSON BREA GARO TAKES
COMMAND FROM NEIT NIVAR, WHO RESIGNED JULY 19. TWO NEW SUB POLICE
CHIEFS, BGENS. PAULINO REYES DE LEON AND ANTONIO DE LOS SANTOS
ALMARANTE, ALSO WERE NAMED IN BALAGUER'S DECREE.

3. COMMENT: WHETHER THIS LATEST MOVE BY BALAGUER IS JUST MORE

OF HIS ACCUSTOMED MUSICAL CHAIRS TACTICS, OR WHETHER IT HAS MORE OMINOUS IMPLICATIONS, CANNOT BE JUDGED NOW. ONE DISTURBING FACT IS THAT WHEN THE NEW GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER, NIVAR, WHO IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE THE INSTIGATOR OF THE MILITARY INTERFERENCE IN THE VOTE-COUNTING ON MAY 17, WILL HAVE COMMAND OF THE ONLY EFFECTIVE FIGHTING FORCE IN THE NATION STATIONED JUST OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL.

THE DEGREE TO WHICH HIS COMMAND AUTHORITY CAN BE IMPOSED IN A BRIEF TIME, THE ATTITUDES OF SUBORDINATE COMMANDERS IN THE FIRST, THE DEGREE OF COUNTERWEIGHT THAT MIGHT BE PROVIDED BY PEREZ Y PEREZ AND LLUBERAS IN THEIR NEW JOBS AND BY MAJOR GENERAL CUERVO GOMEZ (RETAINED AS COMMANDER OF THE SPECIAL FORCES) ARE UNKNOWN ELEMENTS WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE WEIGHTED IN JUDGING THIS NEW SITUATION.

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Message Attributes

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